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SENSIND:

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FRE

STAFF

MHFNO: 98-0430861

CONF: [redacted]

INFO: [redacted]

MDSX, ODPD, FILE, [redacted]

(7/P)

LIMITED,

98 0430861 ASO

PAGE 001

TOT: 041406Z FEB 98

DIRECTOR 674771

S E C R E T

STAFF

TO: IMMEDIATE [redacted] 041407Z DIRECTOR 674771

MEXICO CITY, [redacted]

FROM: LIMITED DISSEM IMS/ESG INFO DO/IRO, CHIEF/LA, LA/FIG,
LA/FIGSC, CIC/LA, CIC/EUR, EUR/SG, EUR/SGF, CHIEF/EUR, DC/EUR,
C/CE/R/XO

SLUGS: WNINTEL

SUBJECT: CONTINUED PROTECTION OF COVER AS METHOD

REF: NONE

TEXT:

1. ACTION REQUIRED: NEED YOUR RESPONSE NLT 9 FEBRUARY, TO
MEET THE BOARD-IMPOSED DEADLINE.

* 2. THE <JFK ASSASSINATION> RECORDS REVIEW BOARD (ARRB) IS A
PRESIDENTIALLY-APPOINTED BOARD WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR RELEASING
*ALL RECORDS RELATING TO THE <ASSASSINATION> OF <PRESIDENT KENNEDY>
WITH A VERY FEW LIMITED EXCEPTIONS. THE MOST RELEVANT EXCEPTION
FOR THE AGENCY IS WHERE THERE IS "...CLEAR AND CONVINCING EVIDENCE
THAT THE THREAT TO THE CONDUCT OF US INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES AND
FOREIGN RELATIONS OUTWEIGHS THE PUBLIC INTEREST AND THAT
DISCLOSURE WOULD REVEAL AN INTELLIGENCE METHOD CURRENTLY UTILIZED
AND NOT OFFICIALLY DISCLOSED."

3. LAST WEEK, THE DDA AND THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR ADMINISTRATION WERE CALLED TO TESTIFY ON THE CONTINUED
WITHHOLDING OF INFORMATION [redacted]

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FOLLOWING QUESTIONS MAY ASSIST IN THE FORMULATION OF YOUR
RESPONSE.

(A) [REDACTED]

(C) DESCRIBE SOME PARTICULAR ACTIVITIES WHICH COULD BE
IMPERILED?

(D) ARE THERE NEW INITIATIVES WITH THE HOST GOVERNMENT AND
SERVICE WHICH COULD BE IMPERILED (E.G., COUNTER-NARCOTICS WHERE
PREVIOUSLY NONE)? DESCRIBE.

(E) IS CIA PRESENCE INHERENTLY SENSITIVE
BECAUSE OF HOSTILE POPULATION ELEMENTS OR POLITICAL ACTIVITIES?

(F) IS THERE POSSIBILITY OF HOSTILE USE (E.G., RUSSIAN OR
CUBAN) TO DISCREDIT US EMBASSY AS A "NEST OF SPIES" OR SIMILAR?

(G) HAVE THERE BEEN PAST IMBROGLIOS OVER CIA PRESENCE OR
ACTIVITIES THAT THIS RELEASE COULD RESURRECT?

(H) HAVE OFFICIAL USG RELEASES SUCH AS FOIA EVER APPEARED IN
THE LOCAL MEDIA (E.G., JAPAN AND CAMPAIGN FINANCING OR PERU AND
FOIA RELEASED CONCERNING VLADIMIRO MONTESINOS TORRES). REFERRED
TO BY HOST GOVERNMENT EITHER ON THE RECORD OR OFF THE RECORD.

5. FILE: NONE. INDEX: NONE. CL BY: [REDACTED] CL REASON:
1.5(C), DECL ON: X1, DRV FROM: [REDACTED]
CABLETYPE: GECO STAFF 4.0.1.>
RELNO: DORELS0100880721 (FREDRICK C.
ORIG: I [REDACTED] WICKHAM);
[REDACTED] (FREDRICK C. WICKHAM)

END OF MESSAGE

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